"Morning" & "Evening"

The Prayer-life of Jesus

Sept. 15. 9 AM
1929

"Morning" and "Evening"

Mk. 1:35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed."

Mtt. 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

INTRO. Kodak albums. Pictures of events, trips, friends and loved ones, etc. They are records of ever increasing value. The Gospels present to us the pictures of the Life of Christ, and to them have been add added 2000 yrs of ever increasing preciousness.

In the group of pictures on the prayer-life of Jesus there are two I would have you look at this a.m.

I. Morning. Mk. 1:35
The scene. Still dark. City sleeping. Lone man wend way to solitary place, there to pray.
What did it mean to him?
1. Fellowship and companionship with God

2. Preparation for the day's work.
a. To gain the needed strength and power
Moral courage and a right sense of duty.
J.D.Jone's acct of the man in Toronto using Niagara power.
b. Prayer sweetens the day.
Mystery of prayer. Many things mystery.
Sugar in coffee.
c. Getting the working orders from headquarters
"My will is to do the will of him who sent me."

Another look at the picture. The city waking up. Day has dawned. The disciples look for Jesus. Peter knows every road and trail. Outside the city, up the mountain, out-against the sky of the glorious morning is seen the figure of a lone man in the attitude of prayer!
"Morning: in the prayer-life of Jesus!

II. Evening. Mtt. 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into the mountain apart to pray; and when evening was come, he was there alone.

This picture of prayer may well be named "Evening"
The mountain, the lake, the lonely figure, the same companionless man. The crowd at the lake that had gathered and hungered and been fed was now dispersed. The disciples, at his request, allow him to depart alone.

Then up the mountain while the setting sun covers all with lengthening shadows. Glowing sunset turns to evening purple. The surrounding hills become but dim forms. The lake sinks into the darkness of the nite. And in the darkness is lost from view the lonely man in the attitude of prayer.

Setting sun at Lake Tahoe Shadow over distant peak.

What did evening prayer mean to Jesus?

1. The recognition of God's part in the day
Sense of partnership with God. Co-operation.

2. The check-up on the day's work.
"And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good." The "well-done" approval of God

3. Thanks to God for the provelege of service.

4. Placing oneself in the care and keeping of God.

Conclusion. These two pictures of prayer appeal strongly. In both the picture of the solitary man, the mountain and the lake.

In the one darkness giving way to the glorious light of the coming day.

In the other, the dying day fading away into the darkness of nite.

The great lesson for us. Begin each day with prayer and end each day with prayer. Then every day will be good and successful, filled with peace and joy. And every nite will be freed from all terrors and transformed into the light of eternal day.